

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Chief, London Bureau

22 Dec 1948

Chief, FBIS

Coverage of Soviet Home Service

1. On the basis of monitored flimsies for 26, 27 and 28 October 1948 transmitted from Caversham, a comparative study of Caversham and Reseda coverage of the Soviet Home Service has been made in this office. It is gratifying that on the basis of this study the BBC coverage of Soviet Home Service appears to be thorough and of high quality, and FBIS London Bureau selection and treatment on the whole good.

2. Two observations were made, however, which create an uncertainty whether London Bureau editors are giving sufficient attention to USSR economic data:

a. Apparently uncued text from 261015 EST answering the question "What are the achievements of industry in the countries of popular democracy?"

b. Eight apparently unfiled short economic items from 271530 EST.

It is necessary that all material of this nature be received in Washington. It is not desired to usurp the function of the field bureaus by requiring airmail of monitored flimsies for selection here. You are therefore directed to insure that standing instructions relative to USSR economic information are being followed consistently.

3. It is noted also that in response to the request from this office for Soviet Home Service flimsies, London Bureau dispatched Moscow flimsies of all beams and languages in considerable disorder and with omission of many Home Service flimsies or pages of flimsies. It is desired that future requests be filled with order and precision.

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